

## Nominees wanted for citizen award

If you know a person who has worked to improve or uplift some aspect of the community, take note:

Nominations are open for Citizen of the Year.

The 1988 recipient will be honored Thursday, Oct. 23, at the 18th annual awards banquet hosted by the Farmington/Farmington Hills Chamber of Commerce.

The chamber-sponsored Citizen of the Year Award spotlights a community booster who has rung up extended and resourceful public service during the past year or over a number of years.

Nominees can be anyone who has contributed meritorious service to the community either as a volunteer or in connection with their business.

There are no limitations to a nominee's age, sex or residency. But they must have accomplished their community deeds in the Farmington/Farmington Hills area.

In sizing up potential Citizens of the Year, remember that past award winners are excluded from consideration. Government officials may be nominated for their volunteer achievements only.

Don't hesitate to nominate past nominees who are recent winners but who are still deeply

active in the community.

USE THE accompanying nomination form. Also provide a description of your nominee's most recent local achievements. Supporting letters from colleagues, peers and others who can elaborate on the value of your nominee's service or character are encouraged.

"Tell the judges what contributions you feel the nominee has made to sustain or raise the quality of life in Farmington and Farmington Hills," said Farmington Observer editor Bob Sklar, award committee chairman.

"Be specific in explaining why you believe these contributions are significant and should earn special plaudits. A resume of service would be helpful. Detail time periods."

Be sure you answer the question, "Why should this nominee be selected as the 1988 Citizen of the Year?" Attach additional sheets as necessary.

Past award winners were Dr. Robert Doughlass, Marlowe Bonger, John Anhalt, Charles Schulz, Mary Ann Reilly, Terry Sever, Floyd Cairns, Allan Kenson, Richard Headlee, Sandra Donlon, Robert McConnell, Harold Gibson, Jim Ellis, Jean Fox, Bayard Tupper and Shirley Richardson.

## road watch

This column was prepared by Farmington Hills city manager William Corrick's staff.

This summer promises to be as busy as last summer with many road construction projects planned throughout the city.

As a result, motorists will find road conditions varying from day to day.

This space will list current conditions in a "no surprises" campaign to inform motorists of the road and improvements under way. Additional repairs and improvements will continue for the next two years; the city administration asks for your patience.

The end result will be less congestion, better traffic capacity and improved road safety in the community.

• I-695 — Orchard Lake Road at the interchange is restricted to three lanes during bridge widening. The bridges that carry I-695 over Drake Road are being widened and new ramps at Orchard Lake Road are being built.

• I-11 Middlebelt — The interchange at Middlebelt is being widened to five lanes. The east and north lanes are completed and the contractor is excavating for the south curb.

## Fairness asked in sign debate

By Joanne Mallazewski  
staff writer

Unsuccessful Republican state House candidate Paul Weiday only hopes that any regulations on political signs are applied fairly.

"If any regulations are passed — and I doubt the constitutionality — I think that it should be enforced evenly," said the Farmington Hills planning commissioner. "I would only suggest there's a policy of evenhandedness."

Two proposed ordinances regulating signs that were presented to the city council in August include restrictions on placement, sign size and removal of the signs following an election.

The first proposed ordinance allows placement on private property in any of the city's zoning districts. But it expressly prohibits placement in the

public right of way. It requires sign removal 10 days following an election.

The ordinance also calls for a \$10 service fee to the owner of the property where a sign is placed if it is removed by the city following the 10-day post-election deadline.

Violations of the second proposed ordinance would be a civil infraction punishable by a maximum \$100 fine.

Other communities, including Farmington, Livonia and Novi, have political sign ordinances.

Farmington allows signs on private property

only with written permission from the property owner. All signs must be removed with 14 days of an election. A \$10 fee is charged the property owner if the city must remove a sign following the removal deadline.

Livonia allows non-illuminated signs with property owner permission. Size also is regulated and restricted to a maximum 32 square feet on non-residential property and to a maximum six square feet for all other property types. A 10-foot setback from the right of way is required. Signs are allowed 45 days prior to a primary. Signs must be removed 72 hours after a general election or primary in cases of defeat.

In Novi, political signs are permitted on public property 30 days prior to a primary and must be removed 10 days after a general election. No permits are required but removal costs may be assessed against "a person or entity."

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## Sign debate renewed

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where it's potentially a trespass," he said.

Haron told the city council he believed that there is no apparent "compelling state interest" for the city to regulate political signs, including size. If traffic signs aren't regulated, neither should political signs, Haron said.

"I'm not saying all signs about parking should be removed. But to say political signs cause a problem is invalid," he said. "It's easier to say we'll allow political signs without an ordinance and that the city has a right to remove signs that are a hazard."

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